

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 06810 231249Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 H-01 HA-05 CA-01
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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO RUEHIVXSECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2304
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T C A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 6810

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CARR, BL
SUBJECT: W/W ARRESTS

RWF: ASUNCION 3433, LA PAZ 6750

1. I MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY
OSTRIA TRIGO AUGUST 22 TO CLARIFY GOB ATTITUDE REGARDING
THREE US CITCBEN PRISONERS DETAINED IN ASUNCION AFTER
ESCAPE FROM PRISON IN SANTA CRUZ.

2. OSTRIA'S POSITION,
WHICH HE SEEMED TO THIK WOULD
REFLECT GOB POSITION IN ALL KEY POINTS, WAS AS FOLLOWS.
--HE COULD NOT CONDONE THESE PRISONERS LEAVING PARAGUAY
UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH THEY WERE FREE TO GO WHERE
THEY WISHED AND WOULD AVOID ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR
CRIMES.
--IF THE THREE RETURN TO BOLIVIA THEY WILL FACE A NEW
CHARGE OF ESCAPE.
--THE GOB WOULD NOT NEED TO PERSIST IN SEEKING THEIR
CONTINUED DETENTION IN PARAGUAY AND EVENTUAL EXTRADITION
TO BOLIVIA IF IOACOULD BE ARRANGED THAT THE THREE WOULD
GO DIRECTLY FROM PARAGUAY TO THE US AND THERE BE TREATED
ON A BASIS PARALLEDL TO US PRISONERS RETURNING FROM
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BOL VIA UNDE T E TREATY ON EXECUTION OF SANCTIONS. THE GOB
WOULD ACQUIESCE IN ANYTHING REASONABLE THAT THE USG AND GOP
WOULD WORK OUT ALONG THESE LINES.
--IF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT COULD NOT BE WORUFD OUT, THE GOB
WOULD PERSIST IN ITS REQUEST THAT THE THREE BE DETAINED
AND RETURNED TO BOLIVIA.

3. OSTRIA ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE HAD ZAEN ONLY A SMALL
NUJBER OF CASES IN WHICH THE GOP HAD COMPLIED WILP BOLIVIAN
ESTRADITION REQUESTS AND HE DID NOT SEEM TO RATE HIGHLY
THE CHANCES THAT THE GOP WOULD COMPLY WITH
OIS ONE.

4. OBVIOUSLY THE FIRST OPTION PROPOSED BY MONTANARO AS PER
PARA 2 OF ASUNCION'S REFTEL WILL NOT WORK. I WOULD
APPRECIATE KNOWING THE RESULTS OF DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION
OF WHETHER THERE IS ANY LEGAL WAY OF PROVIDING PARALLEL
TREATMENT FOR THE RETURNING ESCAPEES FROM BOLIVIAN JAILS,
AS SUGGESTED BY OSTRIA PER PARA 2 ABOVE. IN THE ABSENCE OF
GME SUCH ARRANGEMENT, I DOUBT I CAN DO MUCH FROM HERE.
BOEKER

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